

Province of British Columbia

2008/09 STRATEGIC PLAN
ANNUAL REPORT

JUNE 2009 | www.gov.bc.ca

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2008/09 Place on Earth
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BRITISH
COLUMBIA

GREAT GOALS FOR A GOLDEN DECADE

- 1 *Make B.C. the best educated, most literate jurisdiction on the continent.*
- 2 *Lead the way in North America in healthy living and physical fitness.*
- 3 *Build the best system of support in Canada for persons with disabilities, those with special needs, children at risk and seniors.*
- 4 *Lead the world in sustainable environmental management, with the best air and water quality, and the best fisheries management, bar none.*
- 5 *Create more jobs per capita than anywhere else in Canada.*



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*To be a prosperous and just province, whose citizens
achieve their potential and have confidence in the future.*

GOVERNMENT'S CORE VALUES ARE

- **Integrity:** to make decisions in a manner that is consistent, professional, fair, transparent and balanced;
- **Fiscal Responsibility:** to implement affordable public policies;
- **Accountability:** to enhance efficiency, effectiveness and the credibility of government;
- **Respect:** to treat all citizens equitably, compassionately and respectfully; and
- **Choice:** to afford citizens the opportunity to exercise self-determination.

Letter From The Premier

The 2008/09 year will be remembered for a historic celebration, as well as for the unprecedented challenges we faced with the global economic slowdown.

British Columbians from every region of the province came together to celebrate the 150th anniversary of the founding of our province, showing off our culture, heritage and the spirit of our people.

The last six months of 2008/09 saw a significant shift in the global economic outlook. Because of sound fiscal planning and careful governance, the province is in a better position than other jurisdictions to manage through these times.

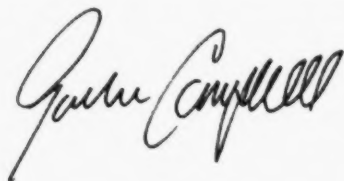
Still, it was important to take immediate steps, as we did last fall and through to Budget 2009. By accelerating tax cuts for individuals and small businesses, we put more money into the pockets of British Columbians and made the province more globally competitive. Our investments in publicly-funded infrastructure projects are keeping construction workers working and laying the foundation for future economic opportunities as Canada's Pacific Gateway. Those projects represent an investment which will return even greater rewards as the economy improves.

Despite challenges, we reached some important milestones over the past fiscal year. We made progress removing trade and labour mobility barriers within Canada, and we took full advantage of being the hosts of the 2010 Olympic and Paralympic Winter Games, showcasing British Columbia to international markets when we attended the 2008 Games in Beijing.

Sound planning led to the completion of many important projects throughout our province, including the William R. Bennett Bridge in Kelowna and the opening of the Abbotsford Regional Hospital – B.C.'s first new regional hospital in over 30 years.

We ensured spending in the health and education sectors was protected. We continued to move forward on our climate change agenda, protecting our environment and resources for our future generations. We opened five new universities to develop the skills our economy will need in the future. We took more steps to partner with First Nations to close the gaps in health, education, housing and economic opportunities for Aboriginal people.

There is no question we face difficult economic times. The world has changed, and it has changed forever. I am confident that the foundations we laid over this past year have put us in a position of strength and opportunity to emerge from this global economic challenge. As we move into our Olympic year, I believe British Columbians are ready to show the world what makes us the Best Place on Earth.



Honourable Gordon Campbell
Premier of British Columbia

Strategic Context

The annual report on the government's 2008/09 strategic plan reviews the achievements of the government for the year against the strategies and objectives outlined in the plan. In order to facilitate that, this report follows the structure laid out in the 2008/09 plan.

A strong economy is the bedrock for each element of the strategic plan. It is essential to building a healthy, vibrant society and creating the revenue needed to pay for important social programs like health care and education as well as to support the continued growth and diversification of the province's rural and northern communities.



Environmental Sustainability

To a great extent a healthy and beautiful natural environment defines who British Columbians are as a people. We participate and interact with the environment every day, and it provides us with the opportunities and means to live a full, active, healthy and vibrant life. It is a fundamental reason British Columbia is the best place on earth to live, work and invest. Maintaining a sustainable relationship with our environment is a key component of the government's strategic plan.

Climate Action

The government introduced seven climate action bills in the Spring 2008 legislative session. The legislation will help the province meet its emission reduction targets set out in the *Greenhouse Gas Reduction Targets Act (2007)*. As well, British Columbia's interim greenhouse gas emission reduction targets were set by regulation at six per cent by 2012 and 18 per cent by 2016, based on Climate Action Team recommendations.

The Province also introduced the revenue-neutral carbon tax that returns revenues collected on the use of fossil fuels to individuals and businesses through tax reductions. As a result of the carbon tax, individual British Columbians had personal income taxes reduced by two per cent in 2008, and another five per cent in 2009.

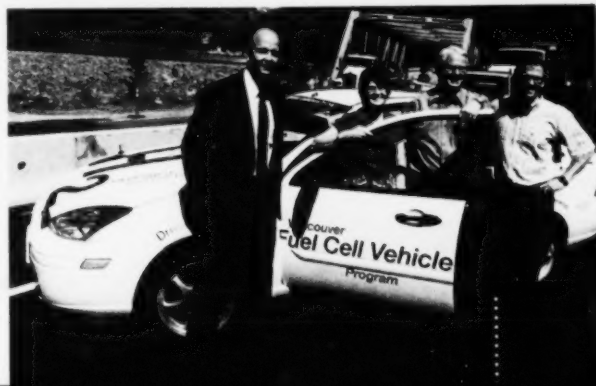
Reflecting the leadership we have provided on the issue, British Columbia was elected Chair of the International Carbon Action Partnership. The partnership was created in October 2007 with the goal of facilitating the development of an international carbon market by linking mandatory cap and trade systems.

Sustainable Buildings and Transportation Infrastructure

A key element to sustainable transportation infrastructure is the Province's \$14-billion public transit plan. Under the Plan, \$1.6 billion will be invested in another 1,500 new, clean energy buses and related maintenance infrastructure to provide communities around the province with improved bus service. The plan will reduce provincial transportation greenhouse gas emissions by 4.7 million tonnes cumulatively by 2020 – equivalent to parking all cars and light trucks in Metro Vancouver for one year.

The public transit plan includes the Canada Line – a modern, convenient and efficient link between the airport, Richmond and downtown Vancouver. The Canada Line will be open by the Labour Day 2009 weekend, about three months earlier than originally scheduled, and will result in an estimated 200,000 fewer one-way car trips every day.

The *BC Air Action Plan* was released on June 4, 2008, outlining 27 initiatives for clean transportation, clean industry and clean communities, including: expanding the BC Scrap-It Program province wide and improving the incentives for removing pre-1995 vehicles from B.C. roads; retrofitting of



school buses throughout the province; implementing new provincial anti-idling initiatives; and facilitating the start up of nine new community based wood stove change-out programs.

In 2008 the Province also introduced *Living Water Smart: British Columbia's Water Plan*, a government-wide plan that will help all sectors, communities and British Columbians keep the province's water healthy and secure. Living Water Smart lays out the vision and steps needed to protect our rivers, lakes, streams and watersheds.

Good environmental management includes encouraging British Columbians to be more energy efficient. The LiveSmart BC: Efficiency Incentive Program, launched in May 2008, invests \$62 million over four years to help British Columbians reduce their energy costs and carbon footprint through upgrades to homes and businesses.

Through the Efficiency Incentive Program, the Province is investing \$17 million in energy efficiency retrofits for low-income housing. By reducing the amount of energy their residences require, these retrofits will help put more money in the pockets of low-income British Columbians and reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

Efficiency Incentive Program participants have saved more than 19,600 tonnes of greenhouse gas emissions a year, averaging 2.59 tonnes per house, to March 31, 2009. Participants reduced their home energy use, on average, 31 per cent per household.

In February 2009, the \$25-million provincially funded BC Bioenergy Network awarded almost \$5 million in funding to two biomass pilot projects. By converting wood waste into clean energy, these projects will ensure that we meet our province's future energy demands while at the same time supporting economic growth and job creation.

The Province also provided authorizations for a First Nation-owned independent power project in Atlin that will result in a saving of more than a million litres of diesel fuel annually, reduction of greenhouse gas emissions by 4,500 tonnes, and significant economic benefits to Atlin through a 25 year contract between BC Hydro and the First Nation.

In 2008 the Canadian Energy Efficiency Alliance gave British Columbia the top score of A+ in its annual report card, ranking Canada's provinces and jurisdictions on promoting energy efficiency, as a result of the BC Energy Plan and climate action initiatives.

Smart Communities

The Province provides a wide variety of supports to help local governments of every size and variety in their efforts to build sustainable communities, such as the Trees for Tomorrow initiative, a five-year, \$13-million program that supports community organizations, First Nations and local governments in urban and rural areas to support the planting of trees and the implementation of other energy-saving initiatives across British Columbia.

The Province, industry organizations and businesses came together to create a new BC Partnership for Sustainable Tourism, helping reduce greenhouse gas emissions and build a competitive advantage for B.C. as travellers increasingly factor into their vacation and travel plans the destination's commitment to the natural environment.

First Nations

New Relationship and Transformative Change Accord

Together with our partners, significant progress has been made which will help close the social and economic gaps that separate Aboriginal peoples from other British Columbians. Stronger relationships have been built between the Crown and First Nations, improving education, housing and health services and increasing economic opportunities.

A key piece of the New Relationship is the engagement of Aboriginal people and communities in the planning of social and economic policy and programs that shape their lives and choices.

The Ministry of Advanced Education launched a four-year Aboriginal post-secondary strategy to help Aboriginal students start, stay in, and succeed in post-secondary education and training, including a new \$32-million climate-friendly library and House of Learning at the Thompson Rivers University. The House of Learning will give First Nations students a place of their own on campus to study, share ideas and support each other in their academic pursuits.

In the K-12 system, the Province signed the First Nations Education Jurisdiction Agreement and enacted legislation to recognize First Nations' jurisdiction over on-reserve schools. Over the year, the Province created, signed and implemented 43 Aboriginal Education Enhancement Agreements around the province. Through these, school boards and Aboriginal communities jointly identify the direction needed to improve the success of Aboriginal students, take steps to reach their shared goals and reflect local Aboriginal culture.

As of April 1, 2008, government delegated services for Aboriginal children and families in Vancouver and Richmond were transferred to the Vancouver Aboriginal Child and Family Services Society. The five-year agreement empowers the agency to provide child protection services to approximately 500 Aboriginal children and youth in care. This is a significant step



forward in recognizing the importance of assisting Aboriginal children and families within the context of their heritage, spirituality and culture.

The foundation for sound social supports is a healthy economy. In 2008/09 substantial progress was made towards creating greater economic opportunity for Aboriginals throughout British Columbia.

The Province entered into a milestone Pacific Trails Pipeline Benefits Agreement with First Nations to develop the Northern Energy Corridor. The Benefits Agreement is integral to the viability of the Pacific Trails Pipeline Ltd's Kitimat Summit Lake natural gas pipeline project, a \$1.2-billion, 463 km pipeline from Summit Lake to Kitimat.

The Ministry of Forests and Range entered into 32 forestry agreements with First Nations involving over 8.3 million cubic metres of timber. With many First Nations living in forest-based communities, to provide employment, community investment and other socio-economic benefits, the government continues to promote opportunities for First Nations' participation in the forest and range sectors.

The Skwxwú7mesh Lil'wat7úl (Squamish Lil'wat) Cultural Centre opened in July 2008. The Centre is a world-class venue showcasing Squamish and Lil'wat cultures as well as Aboriginal cultures from across B.C. and Canada.

The government also committed \$5 million to Aboriginal Tourism BC to increase tourism opportunities in First Nations communities and promote Aboriginal culture and history, and introduced the First Nations Resort Initiative to champion the development of resorts owned and operated by First Nations.

The Aboriginal Business & Entrepreneurship Skills Training (BEST) program received an additional \$500,000 in funding as part of a six-year strategy to improve training and employment opportunities for Aboriginal people across the province. Since its inception in 2004, over 500 students have completed Aboriginal BEST training and 64 per cent of previous participants are currently employed or self-employed.

Treaty Negotiations

Over the past year the treaty process has been building momentum, culminating in the Tsawwassen treaty becoming effective April 3, 2009. Contributing to this momentum was the passage of legislation for a treaty with Maa-nulth First Nations (comprising five Vancouver Island First Nations), representing the first multi-nation treaty signed under the BC Treaty Process.

Another innovation was the development and initial usage of Incremental Treaty Agreements. These agreements allow First Nations and the Province to enjoy shared benefits in advance of a Final Agreement. They build trust among the parties, create incentives to reach further milestones and provide increased certainty over land and resources. The first-ever Incremental Treaty Agreement was signed with the Tla-o-qui-aht First Nations in November, 2008. By the end of the fiscal year, another had been signed with the Klahoose First Nation.

Relationship with Canada

The Province continued to work closely with the federal government on supports for Aboriginal people both on and off reserve through the New Relationship as well as other forums. British Columbia reaffirmed its commitment to closing the Aboriginal housing gap with the signing of an historic Memorandum of Understanding with the federal government and the First Nations Leadership Council in May 2008. The agreement commits the parties to work together to develop a comprehensive approach to improve housing for First Nations communities, individuals and families on and off reserve.



Healthy Living and Sustainable Health Care

Access to high quality health services and expansions in health infrastructure are vital priorities, as evidenced by the nearly 68 per cent increase in provincial health funding over the last eight years. The government has made record levels of investment in the public health care system, strengthened the system through innovation, and brought forward new treatments and services to British Columbians right across the province.

The Conversation on Health

Based on the input received during the Conversation on Health, the government passed a record eight pieces of health care legislation last year based on strengthening the principles in the *Canada Health Act*. This legislation also added a sixth principle of sustainability, which will ensure B.C.'s health programs and services are available in the future.

As well, to improve access and reduce wait times for health services, the government:

Launched the \$10-million Physicians for BC program to help alleviate doctor shortage.

Funded an additional 245 new nursing spaces in nursing programs across the province and created new facilities in support of the highest quality education.

Modernized and replaced thousands of outdated beds and facilities, including 5,896 new residential care beds, assisted living units and supportive housing units.

Opened the new Abbotsford Regional Hospital and Cancer Centre, the single largest health-care capital investment in the history of the province, and the first new hospital in 30 years.

Launched or opened hospital emergency room expansions at Ridge Meadows Hospital, Victoria General Hospital, and more beds at Surrey Memorial Hospital and started construction on the new Surrey Outpatient Hospital.



Healthy People, Healthy Communities

As a result of aging demographics and increased costs from medical technologies and pharmaceuticals, it is evident that funding alone will not address the challenge of keeping health care sustainable. A proven approach to reducing future demands on the health system is to encourage healthier living now. As a result, the government created a ministry dedicated to preventative health: Healthy Living and Sport.

The Province also continued to implement initiatives under ActNowBC, a nationally-recognized program for promoting healthy living and chronic disease prevention.

British Columbia became the first province in Canada to restrict trans fat in all foods prepared and served foods in B.C. restaurants. British Columbia has the lowest self-reported obesity rates in 10 years, along with the lowest rates among provinces in Canada.

The government's School Fruit and Vegetable Snack Program was expanded further in 2008/09 to include 739 schools throughout the province, increasing awareness in children and adults of the benefit of eating healthy.

A new Women's Healthy Living Secretariat was also created to support and advance the health and well-being of women in British Columbia. BC Women's Hospital & Health Centre established Canada's first program to care for substance-using women and their substance-exposed newborns using a rooming-in model.

Supporting recreational and amateur sport is another key element to healthy living. In 2008 the government supported a number of highly successful sport events including the World Triathlon Championships, North American Indigenous Games and number of World Cup events in winter sports which were "test" events for the upcoming 2010 Olympic and Paralympic Winter Games. Athletes from B.C. achieved an unparalleled level of success in winter sport World Cup/World Championship events, setting the stage for an impressive Canadian showing at the 2010 Olympic and Paralympic Winter Games.



The Province and the City of Burnaby each provided \$10 million to dredge Burnaby Lake to re-establish it as an international rowing venue and improve the lake's fish and wildlife habitat. Revitalizing the lake is a critical step forward in re-establishing it as an important centre for amateur sport, and creating a new centre for sport development in the Lower Mainland.

Positive Aging

The government launched the *Seniors in BC: A Healthy Living Framework* action plan for seniors – B.C.'s framework to support older British Columbians to live healthy active lives. As part of this framework, a total of \$1.8 million was provided to 18 ActNow BC Seniors Community Parks across British Columbia.

The framework also included the establishment of a Seniors Healthy Living Secretariat, which will lead implementation of the framework across the provincial government and with other key partners including local government, the business community and community organizations.

Support for those Most Vulnerable

Built on the foundations of Housing Matters BC and the work of the Premier's Task Force on Homelessness, Mental Illness and Addictions, the Province continued work on measures aimed at breaking the cycle of homelessness. These include investments focusing on outreach and intervention on the street and providing more permanent housing together with other supports to help people regain their independence.

To meet immediate needs, the Province now funds more than 1,500 permanent beds at 59 shelters across B.C., with another 1,100 beds available during extreme weather conditions. The Province provided \$2 million to build the Crossing at Keremeos facility, B.C.'s first long-term residential treatment centre for addicted youth. Long-term residential treatment services improve the likelihood of a young person's success in overcoming addictions.

The new Burnaby Centre for Mental Health and Addiction opened in 2008, along with the announcement of \$10 million funding for the BC Mental Health Foundation to help support community actions that promote mental health and prevent substance abuse problems and support treatment. The centre – the first of its kind in British Columbia – serves vulnerable populations who have complex medical, mental, physical and addiction care needs.

Construction of the \$9-million Cypress Lodge was launched in 2008. The Lodge will be a 20 bed mental health rehabilitation facility and provide residents with individualized care in a supportive, community-like setting. Providing the best possible support through facilities like Cypress Lodge ensures people who suffer from mental illness can live fuller, happier lives.

The government released *A Review of Child and Youth Mental Health Services in B.C.*, evaluating the impact of the five-year 2003 Child and Youth Mental Health Plan – the first of its kind in Canada – on British Columbians and acknowledged the work done to enhance services and build a broader continuum of support for children and youth in

B.C. affected by mental health issues. Today, nearly 20,000 children and youth receive government outpatient and mental health services annually – almost double the number receiving services in 2004.

In November 2008, the Blusson Spinal Cord Centre – the world's largest, most advanced and most comprehensive facility for spinal cord injury research and patient care – opened its doors, with \$12.9 million funding from the B.C. Knowledge Development Fund.

The Province and Mr. Robert Ho announced the establishment of a \$41.5-million, seven-storey, state-of-the-art research facility at Vancouver General Hospital that will be the site of three of the hospital's key research programs: the Vancouver Prostate Centre; the Centre for Hip Health and Mobility; and the Ovarian Cancer Research Initiative.

The Province is increasing the number of tests at birth to screen for 19 disorders, up from six. Screening newborns means earlier detection of treatable disorders. With specialized treatment, lifelong health problems such as development disorders, liver problems, brain damage, and even sudden death can be prevented, meaning a healthier life for newborns, and reduced future pressures on our health care system.



Canada's Pacific Gateway

Asia-Pacific Identity

Increasing strategically targeted interaction with Asia is important to British Columbia, as Asia has some of the few global economies that are expected to continue growth in 2009. More and more, British Columbia's future economic progress lay with the cultivation of the opportunities that reside in Asia.

The Province took full advantage of the opportunities presented by the 2008 Olympic and Paralympic Games in Beijing to create and expand cultural, economic and social connections between British Columbia and the Asia-Pacific. An important part of this was the British Columbia Canada Pavilion, a high-profile multimedia marketing and exhibition space. The pavilion introduced 32 industry sector groups and over 2,000 Chinese delegates to B.C. companies and their products and services. Industry Canada reported that B.C.'s total exports to the Asia-Pacific and India were worth more than \$10.6 million in 2008 – an increase of over 50 per cent since 1999.

Reflecting a relationship that is becoming more and more extensive, the governments of Canada, China, and British Columbia signed an agreement to replace buildings damaged or destroyed in the devastating May 2008 earthquake in Wenchuan Province, China.

A "first of its kind" agreement was signed by British Columbia and Queensland, Australia, to build relations on climate change action plans, education, biotechnology, and other key sectors, and strengthen connections in the Asia-Pacific. B.C. and Queensland share international relationships with some of the same jurisdictions, including Guangdong, China, and Gyeonggi, Korea. This new partnership with Queensland creates new opportunities to deepen relations with Asia-Pacific jurisdictions and improve market access in this dynamic region.





Trade and Investment Relations

The Province's Asia-Pacific trade and investment offices ensured British Columbia, its companies, and technologies were front-and-centre at leading industry trade shows and conferences including the Tokyo Video Game Show, G-Star 2008 Video Game Expo (Korea), CommunicAsia 2008 ICT Show (Singapore), ENTECH 2008 Green and Renewable Energy Expo (Korea), International Hydrogen and Fuel Cell Expo 2009 (Japan), and FoodEX Japan. British Columbia's economic connection to Korea was strengthened through the opening of a trade and investment office in Korea.

British Columbia's largest-ever green business delegation went on a trade mission to South Korea and China to promote B.C. expertise in clean technology and green building and pursue opportunities in trade, education and investment. By showcasing British Columbia's world-leading expertise in green technology and green design, this mission made valuable connections to two of Asia's burgeoning economies who are looking for ways to become more sustainable and reduce their footprint on the planet.

World Class Gateway Infrastructure

B.C. has always benefited from our close ties across the Pacific. As Asian markets continue to grow and open up to the world, those connections have never been more valuable. In partnership with other levels of government, B.C. communities and businesses, the Province launched an aggressive campaign to make the most of British Columbia's position as the North American gateway of choice to the Asia-Pacific.

A key part of this, the \$290-million Border Infrastructure Program (\$210 million provincial contribution), was completed. This program improved key sections of the region's road network for better links between border crossings, ports, container facilities, industrial parks, airports and railways.

Rural Communities

Economic opportunities exist in every corner of the province, and the government supported access to them through the several important infrastructure initiatives. In May, 2008, the William R. Bennett Bridge opened, making it easier for people and products to move through the growing Okanagan region. The third-longest landing strip was opened in February 2009 in Prince George, opening up northern and central B.C. to greater access. Phase 3 of the improvements to the Trans-Canada Highway through Kicking Horse Canyon commenced, following on the successful completion of Phase 2, which won awards for innovation and environmental achievement in 2008. As well, the tolls on the Coquihalla Highway were removed, putting money back in the pockets of the commuters, tourists and truck drivers who regularly drive it.

The Urban Picture

British Columbia joined with the federal government, local governments and agencies and the private sector to invest in excess of \$225 million in five infrastructure improvements on the North Shore of Burrard Inlet that will enhance rail and port operations and build Canada's Pacific Gateway. Most commodities imported and exported on the North Shore are directly related to trade with the Asia-Pacific region. Improving transportation infrastructure in this area will create jobs in the community and strengthen Canada's competitive position in international commerce.

The provincial commitment of \$62 million to this project builds on the \$15 billion in improvements Pacific Gateway partners are already funding. Through these investments the Province is improving access to ports and railways, and moving to seize job-creation opportunities and strengthen trading connections overseas.

Pacific Century Skills

In order to improve access to education and training, seven new universities have been established across the province responding to regional, provincial, national and international needs by providing a wide range of programs to meet demands of skill and knowledge shortages in the labour market.

New strategies were introduced to diversify our efforts to acquire the skills and relationships for the emerging opportunities. The Ministry of Advanced Education and Labour Market Development expanded a two-year, foreign worker pilot project under the Provincial Nominee Program to address labour shortages in the food processing industries. \$22 million was also invested across the province to help new British Columbians improve their English skills and succeed in the labour market and workplace

Asia-Pacific Destination

International education contributes approximately \$2 billion a year to the provincial economy, according to the BC Progress Board. Much of those benefits are realized through agreements like that between the Sauder School of Business and the Beijing Local Taxation Bureau, for Sauder to deliver business education to taxation specialists from China. As well, the Vancouver Film School opened a new recruitment office in Seoul, increasing the visibility of British Columbia as a destination of choice for post-secondary international education. More broadly, the Province signed a memorandum of understanding with China's Office of Chinese Language Council International (Hanban) to create free online Mandarin language courses and build stronger educational and cultural ties across the Pacific.

A multilingual website: www.CanadasPacificGateway.ca, was launched in 2008 to promote B.C. as a world-class destination and is available in English, French, Korean, Chinese, Spanish, German and Japanese.



Competitiveness and Productivity

At the outset of the 2008/09 fiscal year, one of the greatest challenges facing the Province was to manage the vigorous growth that had been continuing from the previous year. Near the end of the year, the challenges were entirely different. However, earlier work to build positive relationships with our partners supported prompt and substantial strategic responses to the change in circumstances.

Canada and B.C. signed the Building Canada Fund – Communities Component Agreement, which is part of the \$2.2-billion Building Canada Framework Agreement of 2007. Under the Communities Component Agreement, the provincial and the federal governments are each allocating \$136 million to support a broad range of local government infrastructure projects in communities with a population of less than 100,000 people. To date, 42 projects have been approved providing approximately \$58 million in provincial funding.

Despite the economic slowdown, B.C. must plan for the prospect of workforce shortages in the future. The Province signed the Labour Market Agreement with the federal government, representing \$396 million in funding for B.C. over six years for new labour market programming. As well, the SkillsPlus initiative was launched, a six year program to provide an integrated approach to essential skills and workforce training.





As part of the coordinated *Early Learning Action Plan*, more than 203 StrongStart BC Centres have been established across the province helping prepare children for success in school and in life. The Province also provided new funding for literacy planning for school districts, adult literacy co-ordinators in post-secondary institutions, and Aboriginal family literacy programs in Friendship Centres across British Columbia.

The 2008-09 fiscal year oil and gas land rights sales total of \$2.4-billion trumped the previous record-breaking year by \$1.2 billion, and broke every tracked record for oil and gas land rights sales in British Columbia. This is in addition to the record-setting 2008 calendar year total of \$2.66 billion. The Infrastructure Royalty Credit Program has allocated over \$316 million in infrastructure royalty credits to oil and gas companies, resulting in 72 new road-based projects and 53 new pipeline projects, representing new total capital investment in B.C. of over \$632 million.

The \$205-million Brilliant Expansion Project has moved British Columbia a step closer to electricity self-sufficiency by adding 120 megawatts – enough power to supply 50,000 homes – of clean, renewable energy to the province's power grid while creating 400 jobs at peak construction and contributing nearly \$44 million to the local economy through the purchase of goods and services and another \$50 million in wages.

The Province is moving forward with the Northwest Transmission Line – a \$400-million project that will be pursued in partnership with the private sector that could stimulate thousands of jobs and billions of dollars worth of economic activity – with an investment of \$10 million to support the environmental assessment and First Nations consultation process.

Performance Measures For Great Goals

GOAL 1 – Make B.C. the best educated, most literate jurisdiction on the continent			
	Baseline	Current Status	2015/2016 Target
School Readiness			
• % kindergarten students entering school "ready to learn"	72.1% (04/05 restated)	70.4%	85%
Student Literacy			
• Program for International Student Assessment Ranking	2nd in Canada, 3rd internationally	3rd in Canada, 6th internationally (measured every 2 ND year)	1 ST in Canada Improve internationally
High School Graduation	79% (04/05)	79% (07/08)	85%
Post-secondary completion	56% (2004), Canadian average 57%	59.1% (2008), Canadian average 60.3% ¹	Exceed Canadian average

GOAL 2 – Lead the way in North America in healthy living and physical fitness			
	Baseline	Current Status	2015/2016 Target
Life Expectancy at birth	81 yrs (2004)	81.4 yrs (2008), highest in Canada	>81 yrs
Physical Activity of British Columbians			
• More than 30 minutes of moderate physical activity per day	58.1% (2003)	58% (2008) 1st in Canada	73%
British Columbians who are overweight	42.3% Lowest % in Canada (2003)	44.6% (2008) Lowest in Canada	32%
Tobacco use	15% Lowest % in Canada (2003)	14% (2007) Lowest % in Canada	13%

¹ These results are accurate within +/- 1%

GOAL 3 - Build the best system of supports	Baseline	Current Status	2015/2016 Target
Disabled British Columbians who are working • Of those who wish to work	52% ¹ (2001) Canadian 41.5%	56.5% (2005/06, most recent data available)	62% ²
Disadvantaged children in an age appropriate grade	86% (2005)	87% (2007)	95%
British Columbia seniors living in institutions • Seniors 75 or older in health care or related facilities	10.3% (2001) 2 ND lowest in Canada	10.0% (2006) Lowest in Canada	Maintain Canadian 2nd place rank.

GOAL 4 - Sustainable environmental management	Baseline	Current Status	2015/2016 Target
Average fine particulate concentration in major metropolitan areas	Vancouver is 2 ND lowest in Canada (2004)	Vancouver is lowest in Canada (2007)	Lowest in Canada
Province wide greenhouse gas emissions	67.0 million metric tonnes in 2007	67.0 million metric tonnes in 2007 (most recent data available)	6% below 2007 levels by 2012; 18% by 2016; 33% by 2020
Water quality • % Of 30 B.C. water bodies with stable or improving trends	96% (2004/05)	96% (2007/08)	>96%

GOAL 5 - More jobs per capita	Baseline	Current Status	2015/2016 Target
Number of new jobs per capita	1 ST (2005)	3 RD (2008) ³	1 ST

¹ Baseline changed due to change in data collection method

² Target revised by MHSD as of May 22, 2009

³ Status changed due to changes in data source from February, 2009.



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COLUMBIA

The Best Place on Earth